Explanation under the provision of PCT Article 19(1) (PCT regulations 46.4)

1. Explanation of Amendment

(1) Claim 1 has been amended to recite that "the transparent electrodes are in the form of stripes". This amendment is supported by the last two lines of paragraph [0018] at page 4 of the original specification, stating that the transparent electrodes 3 "are formed in parallel on the anti-diffusion layer 2 by sputtering".

(2) Claim 1 also has been amended to recite that the transparent electrodes are "separated for each color of red (R), green (G), and blue (B)". As shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, the transparent electrodes 3 are separated for each of the RGB areas.

(3) In the amended claim 1, "sides of the light shielding layers are covered with a metal reflective layer in a longitudinal direction of the transparent electrodes, and the metal reflective layer is connected electrically to the transparent electrodes in the longitudinal direction". This feature is based on the transparent electrodes in the form of stripes and FIGS. 1 and 2.

2. Comparison between the present invention and the reference

Referring to FIG. 1 of the cited document 1, the electrodes 44, 46 are formed continuously in the lateral direction and are not separated for each color. Moreover, the cited document 1 does not disclose that the sides (reflecting surfaces) of the light shielding wall 70 are made of metal. Even if they are metal, the sides of the light shielding wall 70 are along the direction (width direction) perpendicular to the length direction of the electrodes. Therefore, the electrical resistance of the transparent electrodes cannot be reduced.

In contrast, the present invention has the features that "the transparent electrodes are in the form of stripes and separated for each color of red (R), green (G), and blue (B)", and that "sides of the light shielding

layers are covered with a metal reflective layer in a longitudinal direction of the transparent electrodes, and the metal reflective layer is connected electrically to the transparent electrodes in the longitudinal direction". Accordingly, the present invention can provide the superior effect of reducing the electrical resistance of the whole transparent electrodes (see paragraphs [0011] and [0013]).

3. Conclusion

As described above, we believe the present invention has both novelty and inventive step.

CLAIMS

[1] (Amended) An electroluminescent element comprising:

a light-emitting layer;

a color filter layer; and

a surface substrate,

wherein the color filter layer and the surface substrate are located on a light extraction side,

the color filter layer is present between transparent electrodes formed on the light-emitting layer and the surface substrate, ~~and~~

the transparent electrodes are in the form of stripes and separated for each color of red (R), green (G) and blue (B),

the color filter layer comprises light-emitting portions of three primary colors and light shielding layers formed between each of the light-emitting portions,

sides of the light shielding layers are covered with a metal reflective layer in a longitudinal direction of the transparent electrodes, and

the metal reflective layer is connected electrically to the transparent electrodes in the longitudinal direction.

[2] The electroluminescent element according to claim 1, wherein a black layer is formed on surfaces of the metal reflective layer and the light shielding layers that face the surface substrate.

[3] The electroluminescent element according to claim 1, wherein the metal reflective layer is formed of aluminum having a thickness of 0.05 μm to 1 μm.

[4] The electroluminescent element according to claim 1, wherein the metal reflective layer is formed of a silver electrode having a thickness of 1 μm to 10 μm.

[5] The electroluminescent element according to claim 1, wherein the color filter layer further comprises a red conversion layer, a green conversion

layer, and a transparent resin layer.